

United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1628

21 April 1994

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + Security Council meets tonight to act on draft resolution demanding that Bosnian Government and Bosnian Serbs conclude immediate cease-fire agreement, if adopted, resolution would demand Bosnian Serb withdrawal from safe area of Gorazde.
- + Security Council extends UNOMIL mandate for six months, subject to reviews by 18 May and 30 June; calls on Liberian parties to install Transitional Government so that September elections can go ahead.
- + Secretary-General, in report to Security Council, says complete withdrawal of UNAMIR could lead to heavy loss of life in Rwanda and ethnic violence in neighbouring countries.
- + Secretary-General responds positively to French proposal that he convene high-level international conference on former Yugoslavia.
- + United Nations humanitarian convoy leaves Sarajevo for Gorazde; death toll mounts as Bosnian Serbs continue shelling of town.
- + Special Coordinator for Sarajevo says draft plan of action for restoration of city services should be completed by end of April.
- + Preparatory Committee for Population Conference approves three chapters of draft programme of action; to consider family planning and reproductive health matters further.

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The Security Council met late this afternoon to take action on a draft resolution concerning the situation in Gorazde. By that draft, the Council would demand that the Bosnian Government and the Bosnian Serb party conclude an immediate cease-fire agreement, under the auspices of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina, leading to an agreement on a complete cessation of hostilities. It would also condemn

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attacks against Gorazde by the Bosnian Serbs, and demand that they withdraw their forces and weapons to a distance from which they would no longer threaten the safe area.

Also by the draft resolution, the Council would invite the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to ensure that UNPROFOR was able, within the limits of its resources, to monitor the situation in Gorazde and respect for any cease-fire. The Council would also demand the immediate release of any United Nations personnel still being held by the Bosnian Serbs and unimpeded freedom of movement for UNPROFOR.

The draft underlined the urgent need to intensify efforts towards an overall political settlement agreed by all parties in the former Yugoslavia, particularly in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It also called for coordination and close consultation between the representatives of the United States and the Russian Federation and those of the United Nations and the European Union, with the aim of bringing together current diplomatic initiatives.

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The Security Council today extended the mandate of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL) until 22 October, noting that elections were scheduled to take place in that country by 7 September. In unanimously adopting resolution 911 (1994), the Council decided to review the situation in Liberia and UNOMIL's role there by 18 May. That review would consider the installation of the National Transitional Government and progress towards implementing the peace process.

The Council also decided to review, by 30 June, whether there had been enough progress in implementing the revised timetable of the Cotonou Peace Agreement to warrant continued UNOMIL involvement. That review would focus on the Transitional Government's operation, disarmament and demobilization, and preparations for September's national elections.

The Council called on the Liberian parties to install the Transitional Government by 18 May, including the full cabinet and the national assembly, so that the elections could go ahead. It urged them to stop fighting and to cooperate with the Economic Community of West African States' Monitoring Observer Group (ECOMOG) to complete the disarmament process. It also called on them to ensure the safety of UNOMIL observers and civilian staff. The Council encouraged Member States to contribute to the Trust Fund for implementation of the Cotonou Agreement or to ECOMOG, and to assist in humanitarian, development and electoral activities in Liberia.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has said that complete withdrawal of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) could lead to heavy loss of life there and to ethnic violence in neighbouring countries. He also said that there was no prospect of a cease-fire in Rwanda in the coming days, and that UNAMIR personnel could not be left at risk indefinitely when

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there was no possibility of their performing the tasks for which they had been dispatched. In a report on UNAMIR dated 20 April, he outlined three options for the Security Council's consideration.

The first option envisaged immediate and massive reinforcement of UNAMIR and a change in its mandate which would allow it to coerce the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandese Patriotic Front into a cease-fire. That action would make possible the distribution of humanitarian aid throughout Rwanda and would help prevent the violence from spreading to neighbouring countries. The Mission would require several thousand extra troops, and possibly enforcement powers under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

According to the second option, the Force Commander and necessary staff would remain in Kigali to act as an intermediary between the two sides with a view to a cease-fire agreement. The Special Representative for Rwanda would also continue efforts aimed at the resumption of the Arusha peace process. An infantry company would be needed to provide security, while a number of military observers would be deployed to monitor the situation. The UNAMIR would thus continue to exist at a strength of about 270.

The Secretary-General said he did not favour the third option -- complete withdrawal of UNAMIR -- as there was little hope that the parties would thus agree to end the violence and mass killings. However, he emphasized that the Government of Rwanda, or its successor, and the Front were ultimately responsible for restoring peace to their country.

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The Secretary-General has replied positively to a letter from French President François Mitterrand asking him to convene a high-level international conference on the former Yugoslavia, a United Nations spokesman announced today. The Secretary-General has informed the Security Council of the initiative, which is similar to one he discussed with Council members last June.

The Secretary-General has also been briefed about United States President Bill Clinton's initiative regarding the former Yugoslavia, and is aware that consultations are under way on the convening of an international summit, the spokesman continued. The Secretary-General has always believed that the question of the former Yugoslavia can only be resolved as a whole and through negotiations. He supports the efforts under way and will be consulting with the Governments concerned in the coming days, the spokesman added.

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A United Nations convoy consisting of 100 peace-keepers and a 40-man Nordic medical unit this morning left Sarajevo for Gorazde, a spokesman for the Organization announced today. The convoy was carrying urgently needed humanitarian supplies for the besieged Bosnian town.

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Bosnian Serb forces continued their attacks on Gorazde today, with deliberate shelling of non-military targets, the spokesman said. The town's hospital was hit by two rounds of tank fire, resulting in numerous casualties. United Nations military observers on the ground described Bosnian Serb allegations that the facility was a military target as "preposterous".

The spokesman went on to say that all United Nations personnel being held by the Bosnian Serbs had been released, although a Dutch military observer missing since last week was still unaccounted for. The Bosnian Serbs had also removed land mines from around weapons-storage sites within the Sarajevo exclusion zone.

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The Special Coordinator for Sarajevo, William Eagleton, today said that he expected a draft plan of action for the restoration of essential public services in the city to be completed by the end of the month. He told correspondents at Headquarters that a meeting of "key players" would be held by the middle of next month to discuss the plan and to prepare for its implementation.

Mr. Eagleton said that while it was too early to estimate the plan's financial requirements, a draft report by the United Kingdom and the United States suggested that initial emergency work would cost several hundred million dollars. Reconstruction of Sarajevo would be a much larger undertaking and would require a political solution in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He noted that a special trust fund had been established for the city, although no contributions had yet been received.

Sarajevo now received only 20 per cent of its normal water supply, although the electricity situation was somewhat better, the Special Coordinator went on to say. A major effort would be made to restore gas supplies before next winter. Infrastructure and utilities ran through different sectors in the city, and the two parties there had pledged to cooperate with efforts to restore services. Sarajevo had a great deal of skilled manpower, but resources and equipment were badly needed, he added.

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The Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development yesterday approved three chapters of its draft programme of action, but left areas on family planning and sexual and reproductive health open for further consideration. The three chapters covered partnership with the non-governmental sector; national action; and gender equality and the empowerment of women. The Committee was meeting in plenary after almost two weeks of working group negotiations.

Dr. Nafis Sadik, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Secretary-General of the Conference, told the Committee that the

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centrality of the family and the rights of women must be recognized in decisions on the draft final document. Too often, women had only been spoken for, if at all, by men largely unaware of their realities, she said.

The International Conference will be held in Cairo next September under the theme of population and sustainable development. It will examine population and related issues, such as gender equality and the empowerment of women, and their implications for social and economic development. The Conference will also address the issues of reproductive health and family planning as human rights.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1629

22 April 1994

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + Security Council, in resolution adopted last night, condemns Bosnian Serb attacks on Gorazde; demands immediate cease-fire throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina, under UNPROFOR auspices.
- + Security Council, in another resolution yesterday, adjusts UNAMIR mandate with view to mediating cease-fire and aiding humanitarian work in Rwanda; reduces Mission's strength to some 270 personnel.
- + NATO Council authorizes use of air strikes against military targets around Gorazde if Bosnian Serbs do not end attacks against safe area, pull forces back, and allow UNPROFOR freedom of movement.
- + Bosnian Serb civilians prevent United Nations convoy from reaching Gorazde; Special Rapporteur for former Yugoslavia says special anti-personnel rocket is being used in attacks on city.
- + United Nations launches appeal for \$289 million to provide humanitarian aid in Iraq until next March.
- + UNICEF Executive Board to hold regular and annual sessions concurrently at Headquarters beginning Monday.
- + IAEA hosts meeting on safety situation at Chernobyl; experts say plant should be shut down as soon as possible, but Ukraine says it is dependent on nuclear energy.

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The Security Council last night demanded the immediate conclusion of a cease-fire agreement in Gorazde and throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina, under the auspices of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). In unanimously adopting resolution 913 (1994), the Council condemned attacks by the Bosnian Serbs against Gorazde and demanded that they withdraw to where they would no longer threaten the safe area. It also demanded an end to provocative action around the safe areas, the release of all United Nations personnel held by the Bosnian Serbs and freedom of movement for UNPROFOR.

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The Council invited the Secretary-General to ensure that UNPROFOR was able to monitor the situation in Gorazde and any cease-fire and disengagement of military forces, including measures to put heavy weapons under United Nations control. Underlying the urgent need to intensify efforts towards an overall political settlement, it called for close consultation between the United States, the Russian Federation, the United Nations and the European Union to bring together diplomatic initiatives.

The Bosnian representative told the Council that those who had designated Gorazde as a safe area could not avoid responsibility for the lives of its residents. The Council could not continue to impede his country's right to self-defence unless it accepted that responsibility. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) said peace in "the former Bosnia and Herzegovina" was elusive because the international community had acted on false premises. A civil war provoked by forceful secession had been treated as an aggression by one nation against another.

The United States called for Bosnia and Herzegovina to be exempted from the arms embargo on the former Yugoslavia. While condemning attacks against Gorazde, the Russian Federation warned that air strikes against the Bosnian Serbs could escalate the conflict.

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In another meeting last night, the Security Council adjusted the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) so that it would act as an intermediary between the parties there in an attempt to secure a cease-fire. The Mission will also assist in the resumption of humanitarian relief in Rwanda and monitor and report on developments there. By unanimously adopting resolution 912 (1994), the Council authorized a Mission strength of some 270 personnel.

The Council demanded an immediate end to the fighting between the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) and the mindless carnage engulfing the country. It expressed regret at the incident in which the Presidents of Rwanda and Burundi lost their lives and at the violence which had claimed the lives of the Prime Minister, government officials and thousands of other civilians.

The Council said that it would keep the situation in Rwanda under constant review and that it was ready to promptly consider any recommendations the Secretary-General might make on UNAMIR's strength and mandate. It reiterated the need for full implementation of the Arusha Peace Agreement, which was the only viable framework for resolving the conflict and the basis for peace, national unity and reconciliation.

A United Nations spokesman today said that some 1,000 UNAMIR troops would leave Rwanda today and tomorrow, leaving 600 there by Monday. Meanwhile, Special Representative Jacques-Roger Booh-Booh was continuing his efforts to bring an end to the violence.

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The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Council today authorized the use of air strikes against Bosnian Serb military targets around Gorazde if the Bosnian Serbs did not end their attacks against the safe area immediately, pull their forces back three kilometres from the city centre, and allow United Nations forces and humanitarian relief convoys freedom of movement there. The air strikes will be permitted within a 20-kilometre radius of Gorazde, but within the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in accordance with procedural arrangements already worked out between NATO and the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR).

NATO reaffirmed its readiness to provide close air support should the Bosnian Serbs attack UNPROFOR or other United Nations personnel in Bosnia and Herzegovina, or forcibly interfere with the implementation of their mandate. It also called on the Bosnian Government not to undertake offensive action from within Gorazde.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali later expressed support for the North Atlantic Council's decisions and said the United Nations and NATO were coordinating closely in that regard.

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Bosnian Serb women and children yesterday prevented a United Nations convoy carrying humanitarian supplies from reaching the besieged Bosnian town of Gorazde, according to a spokesman for the Organization. As a result, United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) Commander Lieutenant-General Michael Rose ordered the convoy to return to Sarajevo.

Bosnian Serb forces today continued to shell Gorazde, killing 99 people in 24 hours. The Special Rapporteur for the former Yugoslavia, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, appealed to them to end their attacks against the city and to allow humanitarian organizations to conduct their work there. He noted that Gorazde's hospital was being deliberately targeted, and said that a special type of anti-personnel rocket had caused many casualties. Meanwhile, the Bosnian Serbs released a Dutch military observer who had been detained since last week.

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The United Nations today launched an inter-agency appeal for \$289 million to provide humanitarian aid to Iraq between now and March. The aid programme will support rehabilitation activities which encourage self-reliance and reduce dependency on external food assistance. It will also seek to raise agricultural productivity and the resettlement of displaced people in their own villages. The programme will also provide water and electricity supplies and health services.

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United Nations guards will be needed to provide security for personnel distributing aid in the northern Governorates of Suleimaniyah, Arbil and Dohuk, according to the Department of Humanitarian Affairs.

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Increased involvement in Central and Eastern Europe will be one of the topics taken up when the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) holds its regular and annual sessions at Headquarters over the next two weeks. Beginning Monday, the Board will consider broad policy questions and examine proposals for activities in more than 60 countries, with a special focus on Africa. In his report to the Board, UNICEF Executive Director, James P. Grant noted that UNICEF was involved in more than 130 countries last year, with programme costs totaling \$804 million.

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Experts from 12 countries and Ukrainian representatives today concluded a review of the safety situation at the Chernobyl nuclear power station, according to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which hosted the two-day meeting in Vienna. An IAEA expert mission last month found serious safety deficiencies at the station and informed the President of the Ukraine that international levels of safety were not being met there.

The Ukrainian representatives told the meeting that their country needed nuclear power because its economy was in poor condition and gas and oil imports were expensive and potentially unreliable. They said the safety level at Chernobyl could be upgraded if the international community provided financial assistance. However, a majority of participants at the meeting wished to see operations at the station discontinued as soon as possible.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1630
25 April 1994

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + Under-Secretary-General Annan says air strikes will be launched against Bosnian Serbs if heavy weapons are not withdrawn from exclusion zone by Wednesday deadline; stresses agreement on issue between United Nations and NATO.
- + United Nations has not abandoned Rwandese civilians to ethnic violence despite scaling down of UNAMIR, Under-Secretary-General Annan says; Force Commander continues efforts to arrange cease-fire.
- + Secretary-General opens Global Conference on Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in Barbados.
- + Secretary-General expresses regret at death of former United States President Nixon, citing his impact in field of international relations.
- + India calls on Fifth Committee to urgently address issue of reimbursing States for troop contributions to UNTAC.

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Air strikes will be launched against Bosnian Serb heavy weapons if they are not withdrawn from a 20-kilometre military exclusion zone around Gorazde by 0001 hours GMT on Wednesday, Kofi Annan, Under-Secretary-General for Peace-Keeping Operations, said today. A three-kilometre exclusion zone has been in effect since 0001 hours yesterday, following a decision of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) on Friday. NATO authorized the use of air strikes against the Bosnian Serbs if they did not end their attacks against Gorazde, pull their forces back from the city centre, and allow United Nations forces freedom of movement there.

The Bosnian Serbs had not complied promptly with yesterday's deadline, but the Commander of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), General Bertrand de Lapresle, had decided against the immediate use of air strikes, Mr. Annan told correspondents at Headquarters. UNPROFOR felt that progress was being made and that the Serbs would soon comply with the ultimatum; it was important to get United Nations troops and medical units into the city as

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quickly as possible and air strikes might have jeopardized that operation. There were now 475 United Nations personnel in Gorazde, he added.

Mr. Annan stressed that there was no disagreement between the United Nations and NATO over the issue of air strikes. The two organizations had enjoyed excellent relations for more than a year, and there were close contacts between Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and Secretary-General Manfred Wörner and at the military level.

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Rwandese civilians fleeing ethnic violence have not been abandoned despite the scaling down of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR), Kofi Annan, Under-Secretary-General for Peace-Keeping Operations, said today. He told correspondents at Headquarters that some civilians who had sought shelter in UNAMIR facilities were now in areas protected by the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) and were reasonably safe, while others were being protected by United Nations observers still in the country. Meanwhile, the Force Commander had arranged an exchange of displaced persons in order to prevent massacres from taking place, and had held meetings with the Rwandese Government and the RPF in an attempt to arrange a cease-fire.

The Security Council last week adjusted UNAMIR's mandate so that it would act as an intermediary between the Rwandese parties in efforts to secure a cease-fire, assist in the resumption of humanitarian relief, and monitor developments in Rwanda. Mr. Annan stressed that UNAMIR had been a relatively small operation even before the Council action, and that its capabilities had been drastically reduced with the withdrawal of the Belgian contingent. He noted that the Mission was currently being scaled down towards its authorized strength of 270, with 450 personnel remaining in the country as of today.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said today that the issues before the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States were multifaceted, complex and vitally important. Addressing the opening of the two week Conference in Bridgetown, Barbados, he said the United Nations was committed to supporting development through such conferences, which encouraged cooperation and decision-making.

The Conference will aim to adopt a programme of action to preserve ecological balance and cultural diversity while fostering economic growth in small island developing States. Its draft programme of action addresses such issues as climate change and rising sea levels, preparedness for natural and environmental disasters, and resource management. The draft views tourism as a development opportunity that must be integrated with environmental and cultural concerns.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today expressed regret at the death of Richard M. Nixon, former President of the United States. The Secretary-General said that he had known Mr. Nixon for many years, and that the former President had had an especially significant impact in the field of international relations. He extended his condolences to Mr. Nixon's family, as well as to the Government and people of the United States.

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India today told the Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) that it should urgently address the critical issue of reimbursing troop-contributing States that participated in the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC). India said it had been reimbursed only up to March 1993 despite the mission's success, and noted that \$90 million had been transferred from UNTAC to other peace-keeping operations.

United Nations Controller Yukio Takasu said that payment of the \$97 million owed to such States would be expedited as soon as the Organization received some of the \$254 million in outstanding contributions from Member States. He appealed to Members to pay their assessments as soon as possible.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

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Prepared by Central News

DH/1631

26 April 1994

T U E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

- + Secretary-General says United Nations will not hesitate to use air strikes if Bosnian Serb forces do not meet deadline for withdrawal from Gorazde exclusion zone; UNPROFOR Commanders assess situation with NATO Chiefs in Brussels.
- + Secretary-General says his presence at Conference on Small Island States in Barbados shows his concern for development issues; notes that 60 per cent of United Nations budget is devoted to development.
- + UNOMSA deploys more than 2,100 personnel as voting begins in South Africa's first democratic elections.
- + Department of Humanitarian Affairs launches emergency appeal for \$16.5 million to help those effected by violence in Rwanda.
- + ONUSAL reports no serious disturbances, but some irregularities, as second round of elections begins in El Salvador.
- + Israel tells Committee against Torture of need to strike delicate balance between obligations to combat terrorism and to protect the innocent; says it works hard to prevent unnecessary use of force.
- + Special Mission to Afghanistan completes forth visit to country after meeting leaders in Kandahar; says steps towards permanent peace could lead to international aid for reconstruction and development.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today reiterated that the United Nations would use air strikes "without any hesitation" if the Bosnian Serbs did not withdraw their heavy weapons from the 20-kilometre military exclusion zone around Gorazde by 0001 hours GMT tomorrow. He said he hoped that the Bosnian Serbs would comply with relevant Security Council and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) resolutions, and that air strikes would not have to

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be launched. He made those comments at a press conference in Bridgetown, Barbados, where he was attending the United Nations Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

In a related development, United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) Commanders General Bertrand de Lapresle and Lieutenant-General Michael Rose were in Brussels yesterday and today for consultations with NATO Chiefs-of-Staff, according to a United Nations spokesman. They were undertaking a detailed analysis of the situation on the ground in Bosnia and Herzegovina and analyzing plans and procedures for air strikes. The spokesman stressed that the United Nations had the full support of NATO, and that the involvement of the regional organization was in conformity with the Charter.

Meanwhile, the spokesman continued, the Bosnian Serbs had completed their withdrawal from the three-kilometre exclusion zone around Gorazde which came into effect on Sunday, and the situation there was stable and calm. Humanitarian and peace-keeping convoys were moving into the city, while casualties were being evacuated for medical treatment elsewhere.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today said that his presence at the United Nations Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States demonstrated his concern for development issues. Speaking at a press conference in Bridgetown, Barbados, he said there was a perception that the United Nations was only concerned with peace-keeping operations, but pointed out that over 60 per cent of the Organization's budget was directed towards development.

The 1994 International Conference on Population and Development, the 1995 World Summit for Social Development, and the 1995 World Conference on Women would reflect the United Nations' commitment to development, the Secretary-General continued. Turning to the issue of "donor fatigue," he said it was important to maintain the momentum of contributions to developing countries. More diplomatic action was needed to convince donors of the importance of development, he added.

Yesterday, the Secretary-General said that the Barbados Conference came at a decisive moment in the history of development, and that the international community would look to it for leadership. It must draw attention to the special needs of small island developing States and address the particular issues that concerned them. It must also build on the achievements of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. He stressed that the Organization was uniquely suited to helping advance development goals, with its unparalleled body of knowledge, expertise and goodwill.

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The United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa (UNOMSA) today announced that it had deployed a total of 2,120 personnel as the country's first democratic elections got underway. More than 200 volunteers had been

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deployed last month, while 1,481 observers had arrived in South Africa last week. Observers were deployed in some 60 teams throughout the country, and sub-teams consisting of two observers were expected to visit as many voting stations as possible at least once during the voting.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali intends to visit South Africa for the inauguration of the new President, which is scheduled for 10 May, a United Nations spokesman said today. He noted that the new South African flag would be raised at Headquarters for the first time tomorrow morning.

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The Department of Humanitarian Affairs has launched an emergency appeal to meet the immediate needs of those effected by the violence in Rwanda. It is seeking \$11.5 million for United Nations agencies and \$5 million for non-governmental organizations.

Meanwhile, there was less gunfire in Kigali today after the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) unilaterally declared a cease-fire, but the situation in the city was still tense, according to a United Nations spokesman. He warned that there was a danger of epidemics because of the large number of unburied bodies in the capital's streets, and noted reports of widespread violence elsewhere in the country.

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The United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL) has said there were no serious disturbances when the country's elections began on Sunday. Some 900 ONUSAL observers reported that the second round of voting was better organized than the first, with the use of guides to direct voters, free public transport and the early release of election results.

However, there had been a number of electoral irregularities, according to ONUSAL. Some Voting Table Committees (JRV) had not opened or closed on time and both parties had complained of illegal campaigning inside the voting centres. ONUSAL also reported that many citizens had been unable to cast their ballots despite having voting cards.

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The State Attorney of Israel, Dorit Beinisch, said yesterday that as acts of violence increased in her country, a delicate balance had to be struck between the obligation to protect the lives of the innocent and the means employed to achieve that aim. Introducing Israel's report to the Committee against Torture in Geneva, she said that officials sometimes erred in their actions and that the test of the system was how it reacted to such aberrations. Israel worked hard through legislation and judicial and administrative review to prevent and punish the unnecessary use of force.

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Press Release DH/1631
26 April 1994

Responding to Israel's report, Canada said necessity was not a useful defence. Denmark said terrorism could not be eradicated by torture, which was not the best way to get information and did not solve political problems.

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The Secretary-General's Special Mission to Afghanistan has completed its fourth visit to that country after spending Saturday in the southern city of Kandahar. The head of the mission, Mahmoud Mestiri, appealed to local officials to exercise their historical leadership role and to be builders of peace. The first step would be to form a broad-based administration which would allow the United Nations to expand its work in the region. He said that once the international community saw the first steps towards a permanent peace, there could be offers of assistance for reconstruction and development.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1632
27 April 1994

W E D N E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

- + Security Council, acting under Chapter VII of Charter, authorizes increase in UNPROFOR strength of up to 6,550 troops, 150 military observers and 275 police monitors.
- + Secretary-General announces that Bosnian Serbs have ended attacks on Gorazde and withdrawn from military exclusion zone around town; says United Nations went to brink of war to attain peace.
- + In message to Special Representative Akashi, Secretary-General hails recent success of UNPROFOR; cites devotion to duty and calmness under pressure of entire United Nations operation.
- + Secretary-General of OIC urges Security Council to lift arms embargo against Bosnia and Herzegovina; calls for massive use of air strikes to end aggression against Republic.
- + Secretary-General congratulates South Africa on conduct of ongoing elections, noting performance of Independent Electoral Commission and UNOMSA observers.
- + Special Representative Clark says Cypriot parties are close to agreement on confidence-building package, but stresses need for Turkey's continued help; says measures have not been altered to disadvantage of Turkish Cypriots.
- + United Nations launches inter-agency appeal for \$100 million to provide humanitarian aid to Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia for one year.
- + United Nations appeals for \$62 million to provide emergency assistance for Afghanistan through September.
- + Somali leaders to meet in Nairobi on 10 May to prepare for upcoming National Reconciliation Conference.

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The Security Council today authorized an increase in the strength of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) of up to 6,550 troops, 150 military observers and 275 civilian police monitors, in addition to the reinforcement of 3,500 troops already approved in resolution 908 (1994). The Council took that action, under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, in response to recommendations by the Secretary-General.

In unanimously adopting resolution 914 (1994), the Council reiterated its determination to ensure UNPROFOR's security and freedom of movement in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Speaking after the adoption of the resolution, Council President Don McKinnon (New Zealand) said UNPROFOR's mandate was to create the conditions of peace and security required for negotiation of an overall settlement. The Force could secure the delivery of humanitarian relief, monitor agreements already reached and use all necessary means, including force, to protect its personnel, he noted. However, the Council could not impose peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina by force or fight against or on behalf of any of the parties to the conflict there.

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The Bosnian Serbs have ended their attacks on Gorazde and pulled their heavy weapons out of the 20-kilometre exclusion zone around the town, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali announced last night. He said Gorazde was not just a "safe area" in theory but in fact. He noted that the United Nations now had 500 personnel in the town, and had been evacuating casualties and bringing in relief supplies for the last two days.

The Secretary-General said the Security Council, with the support of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), had taken a clear position regarding Bosnia and Herzegovina. There must be no further threats to the safe areas, United Nations humanitarian efforts must continue unimpeded, and all sides must commit to a cease-fire and negotiate a political solution in good faith.

The international community had never focused more attention on the Bosnian situation, and major gains had been made, the Secretary-General continued. Sarajevo was peaceful, central Bosnia was calm, and all the elements of a peace agreement were on the table. "We have gone to the brink of war to attain this peace. With vigilance and statesmanship, on all sides, we might now secure it," he concluded.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali last night praised Special Representative Yasushi Akashi and the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) for their successful performance in recent days. In a message to Mr. Akashi, he also recognized the achievements of UNPROFOR Commanders General Bertrand de Lapresle and Lieutenant-General Michael Rose.

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The Secretary-General said the professionalism, devotion to duty and calmness under pressure of the entire United Nations operation exemplified the highest traditions of the Organization.

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The Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, Hamid Algabid, today urged the Security Council to restore Bosnia and Herzegovina's "inherent and inalienable" right of self-defence, saying that the arms embargo against the Republic was in serious derogation of the United Nations Charter. He called for the massive use of air strikes if the Serbs did not comply with United Nations resolutions. The Council should authorize attacks on Serbian command and control facilities and other military targets without delay, he added.

Mr. Algabid said the barbaric Serbian assault on Gorazde and the inability of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) to ensure the inviolability of the safe area highlighted the need for effective action against "the Belgrade regime and its instruments of terror." The OIC was perturbed by arguments seeking to portray Serbian aggression against Bosnia and Herzegovina as an intractable civil war, he added.

The entire Islamic world was overwhelmed by anguish and indignation at the open genocide being committed against Muslims in the Republic, Mr. Algabid went on to say. He stressed that the OIC would cooperate fully with efforts to end the Serbian aggression, and noted that several of its members had offered to contribute troops to UNPROFOR.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has congratulated South Africa on the occasion of the country's first democratic elections, according to a United Nations spokesman. The Secretary-General expressed his pleasure at the conduct of the voting, which began yesterday, citing the performances of the voters themselves, the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), and the United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa (UNOMSA). The Mission has deployed a total of 2,120 personnel throughout the country to observe the elections.

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Special Representative Joe Clark yesterday said that the two parties in Cyprus were close to an historic agreement on a United Nations-sponsored package of confidence-building measures, but added that the continued help of Turkey was needed if failure were to be avoided. He told correspondents in Ankara that the impression that the measures had been altered to the disadvantage of the Turkish Cypriots was false. He stressed that the package offered concrete benefits to both sides and said the Turkish Cypriots should not reject it without considering what they stood to lose as a result.

Mr. Clark said that the reopening of the fenced area of Varosha and of Nicosia International Airport would promote trade and tourism and boost the

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Turkish Cypriot economy. It was not true that the road between Varosha and the United Nations buffer zone would be taken away from Turkish Cypriot control. However, guarantees would be needed so that both sides could enter the area freely. The provisions regarding Nicosia Airport had not been altered to help the Greek Cypriot community but would operate "for the equal benefit of both sides," he continued. The United Nations had to choose between a strict reading of the package, which would hurt everyone, and a sensible interpretation, which would help both sides.

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The United Nations has launched a consolidated inter-agency appeal for \$100 million to provide humanitarian assistance for the Caucasus -- Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia -- over the next year. The aid programme will provide food to almost 1.4 million people affected by conflict and political instability in the region. It will also provide health care, including immunizations, and meals for school children.

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The United Nations today issued an inter-agency appeal for \$62 million to provide emergency aid for Afghanistan until the end of September. Hundreds of thousands of Afghans have been affected by intense fighting in Kabul and depend on humanitarian aid for their survival. In other parts of the country, which are generally peaceful, United Nations agencies will provide aid to refugees returning from neighbouring countries and to displaced persons. Assistance is also needed for mine clearance, and for the provision of water and electricity supplies and health services.

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Somali leaders will meet in Nairobi, Kenya, on 10 May to prepare for a National Reconciliation Conference in Mogadishu later in the month, according to the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II). The meeting will establish procedures for participation in the Conference, which will elect a Transitional Government.

UNOSOM II hopes to ensure participation by all segments of Somali society in the Conference, and the Secretary-General's Special Representative, Lansana Kouyate, has been holding a series of consultations with political, clan and religious leaders ahead of the Nairobi meeting.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1633
28 April 1994

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + Secretary-General, meeting with OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina, says UNPROFOR achieved all objectives sought in relation to Gorazde; renews call for OIC to establish trust fund for Republic.
- + Fifth Committee approves draft resolution by which General Assembly would authorize Secretary-General to commit up to \$1.3 million to finance UNOMIG for four months.
- + Representatives tell Global Conference on Small Island Developing States of problems in implementing sustainable development strategies; cite lack of insurance coverage and shortage of foreign investment.
- + IAEA says it cannot commit to date for full implementation of plan for monitoring and verifying Iraqi nuclear capabilities, but notes Baghdad's positive attitude since high-level talks last year.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali yesterday had a "frank and positive" meeting with the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina, according to a United Nations spokesman. The Group consisted of the Foreign Ministers of Pakistan, Iran, Malaysia, Senegal, the Minister of State of Saudi Arabia, the Secretary-General of the OIC, and the Permanent Representatives of Egypt, Tunisia and Turkey.

The Secretary-General briefed the Contact Group on recent developments in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the actions taken by the United Nations there. He stressed that cooperation between the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was excellent, and said the Force had "achieved the objectives we all wanted" in Gorazde. He also thanked the OIC for its contribution to UNPROFOR and renewed his call for it to establish a trust fund for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Security Council met yesterday at the request of the OIC, and heard numerous calls for a lifting of the arms embargo against Bosnia and

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Herzegovina. Iran's Foreign Minister described the embargo as illegal, immoral and impractical, while Pakistan's Foreign Minister said the United Nations had been "as vulnerable to Serbian bullying as to Serbian duplicity."

Bosnia and Herzegovina's Foreign Minister said the recent ultimatum by NATO and the United Nations had shown what could be achieved when the international community showed resolve. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) told the Council that the conflict could not be resolved by exposing one side to pressure and ultimatums while the other side resisted efforts to negotiate.

* * *

The Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) yesterday approved a draft resolution by which the General Assembly would authorize the Secretary-General to commit up to \$1.3 million gross to maintain the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) from 1 July to 31 October.

The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), C.S.M. Mselle, and the United Nations Controller, Yukio Takasu, assured the Committee that revised estimates would be available in a timely manner following the Security Council's expansion of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). The Council yesterday authorized an increase in the Force's strength of up to 6,550 troops, 150 military observers and 275 civilian police monitors. The increase was in addition to the reinforcement of 3,500 troops approved last month.

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Several speakers have told the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States of the difficulties their countries face in implementing sustainable development strategies. The Conference, which will meet in Bridgetown, Barbados through 6 May, is continuing its week-long general debate. The representative of the Marshall Islands said an increasing number of insurance companies were refusing coverage of island States, making it difficult to attract foreign investment. Grenada said although it had liberalized its economy to encourage foreign investment, a sizable proportion of its gross revenues went to meet external expenses.

The representative of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) said small States must integrate and cooperate to maximize their resources. Recognition of their ecological fragility and the threats posed to sustainable development had reinforced the need for regional action, he added. The representative of Trinidad and Tobago said the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) was the "front line" in the fight against global environmental degradation. The Alliance was planning the first comprehensive strategy aimed at arresting the loss of species and preserving biological diversity, he noted.

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The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has said it is not yet in a position to fully implement the ongoing plan for monitoring and verifying Iraq's nuclear capabilities, nor can it commit to a specific date by which that will happen. However, in a report to the Security Council, the Agency said the positive attitude adopted by Iraq since the start of high-level talks last year would, if continued, speed up implementation of the plan. That report was transmitted to the Council by the Secretary-General in a note dated 22 April.

The IAEA said Iraq had formally agreed last November to comply with the plan, as contained in Council resolution 715 (1991), with a view to having the oil embargo against it lifted. The country had since made an effort to promptly provide the required information, to reconcile discrepancies between its previous declarations and IAEA findings, and to give the necessary assistance to implement the plan. The Agency recalled that the documentation provided by Iraq in the past had left much to be desired in terms of completeness and accuracy. However, new forms and guidelines on using them had been introduced, and -- subject to minor improvements -- an acceptable reporting standard was now at hand.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1634
29 April 1994

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + UNHCR says 250,000 Rwandese refugees have fled to Tanzania in past 24 hours as ethnic violence intensifies; 50,000 wait at border to join unprecedented exodus.
- + Secretary-General to leave New York tomorrow for official visit to Norway; will also visit Geneva and Johannesburg, where he will attend inauguration of new South African President.
- + Secretary-General expresses concern at deadlock in efforts to restore democracy, and at human rights situation, in Haiti; will report to General Assembly on question shortly.
- + UNPROFOR says situation in Gorazde is stable despite sporadic small-arms fire on outskirts of town; massive humanitarian relief effort underway in Sarajevo.
- + UNICEF Executive Board authorizes three-year extension, and \$10 million in supplementary funding, for International Child Development Centre.
- + United Nations Information Centres to observe World Press Freedom Day on 3 May.

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More than 250,000 refugees have fled from Rwanda to Tanzania in the past 24 hours because of the worsening violence in their country, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The UNHCR said that the exodus was the largest and fastest it had ever seen, and that a further 50,000 refugees were still waiting to cross a bridge on the Rwandese side of the border.

The UNHCR reported that police and militiamen had fired on some 5,000 people attempting to escape from a sports stadium in the southern Rwandese

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town of Cyangugu, killing an unknown number. The agency described conditions in the stadium as appalling, and said that 40 or 50 educated Tutsis were being executed there each night in an "intellectual ethnic-cleansing campaign."

Meanwhile in Kigali, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) has been protecting a number of sites where civilians have taken shelter. The military situation in the city has turned against the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF), according to a United Nations spokesman, and further bloodshed is feared. The UNAMIR Force Commander and the Secretary-General's Special Envoy have been continuing their efforts to negotiate a cease-fire.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali will leave Headquarters tomorrow for an official visit to Norway, according to a United Nations spokesman. He noted that that country was the largest contributor, on a per capita basis, to the activities of the Organization. The Secretary-General will meet with the Norwegian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, and will also be received in audience by the King and Queen.

The Secretary-General will leave Oslo for Geneva, where, on 4 May, he will convene an advisory panel of eminent persons on the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations. The members of the group have been invited in their personal capacity to discuss the goals and objectives of the 1995 anniversary commemorations. He will also chair a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of Indonesia and Portugal on East Timor on 6 May.

The Secretary-General will then travel to Johannesburg to attend the inauguration of the new President of South Africa on 10 May, the spokesman continued. He said the Secretary-General did not, as a matter of policy, attend inaugurations of Heads of State or Government. However, he had accepted South Africa's invitation because of the United Nations role in the fight against apartheid and the country's first democratic elections, and given the special significance of the event.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has expressed concern at the continuing deadlock in efforts to restore democracy in Haiti, and at the human rights situation there, according to a United Nations spokesman. The Secretary-General, who will shortly report to the General Assembly on the question of Haiti, reiterated it was essential that democracy be restored as the result of an agreement by the Haitian parties.

The Secretary-General yesterday asked Special Representative Dante Caputo to continue to analyze the situation in Haiti closely and to report back to him soon, the spokesman added.

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The situation in the Bosnian safe area of Gorazde was stable today, despite sporadic small-arms fire on the outskirts of the town, according to a United Nations spokesman. The United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) presence there was being reinforced, with the deployment of extra companies of British and Ukrainian peace-keepers, and mines were being cleared from around the town's water plant.

A large number of civilians in Gorazde are suffering from infection and malnutrition, and some 300 casualties have been medically evacuated to date, the spokesman said. He noted that a 14-truck food convoy was en route to the safe area. Meanwhile in Sarajevo, a massive humanitarian relief effort was underway. The city's airport yesterday handled 21 flights organized by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and two by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), while 31 convoys were carrying food aid by road.

* * *

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Executive Board yesterday authorized a three-year extension for the International Child Development Centre, and allocated almost \$10 million in supplementary funding for the institution. Italy, the host country, has pledged more than \$6 million for core activities; the remainder will be sought from other donors for specific activities.

The Centre, which was established in 1988, promotes policy analysis and applied research on child development. It also provides a forum for international professional exchange, and disseminates research findings.

* * *

United Nations Information Centres across the globe will observe World Press Freedom Day on 3 May. The Day was established by the General Assembly last year in response to the 1991 Windhoek Declaration, which stated that "an independent, pluralistic and free press is essential to the development and maintenance of democracy in a nation, and for economic development."

World Press Freedom Day will highlight the need for press freedom at a time when journalists, editors and publishers in many countries are subjected to harassment, imprisonment and official censorship. The Committee on Information will commemorate the Day with a meeting on 9 May.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1635
2 May 1994

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + Security Council, in Presidential statement on Saturday, condemns Rwanda massacres and demands that interim Government and RPF prevent attacks against civilians; asks Secretary-General to report on actions that might help restore law and order.
- + Report by Committee on Peace-Keeping Operations says Force Commanders and Special Representatives should have appropriate authority over missions; stresses need for well-defined command and control structure.
- + International Civilian Mission in Haiti says Haitian military personnel shot dead at least 12 people in Gonaïves last month; demands that High Command launch inquiry into massacre.
- + UNICEF Executive Board concludes 17 full country programmes and six short-term ones at second regular session.
- + Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights begins three-week session in Geneva.
- + Congress on Public International Law to be held at Headquarters in March 1995 in observance of Fiftieth Anniversary of United Nations.

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Saying it was appalled at the wanton killings of innocent civilians in Rwanda, the Security Council demanded on Saturday that the country's interim Government and the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) prevent attacks on civilians in areas under their control. In a statement read out by its President, Colin Keating (New Zealand), the Council said attacks on defenceless civilians had occurred throughout the country, especially in areas controlled by the interim Government's armed forces. It called on both parties to publicly condemn such attacks and to commit to ensuring that persons responsible for them were prosecuted and punished.

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The Council restated its demand for an immediate cease-fire and cessation of hostilities between the interim Government and the RPF. It condemned all breaches of international humanitarian law in Rwanda, and noted that killing members of an ethnic group in order to destroy the group in whole or in part was a crime punishable under international law. Expressing deep concern for the thousands of refugees who had fled the fighting and killings, the Council called on all States to assist the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other relief agencies operating in Rwanda and bordering States.

The Council appealed to States not to provide any military aid to the parties, and said it was willing in principle to consider an arms embargo against Rwanda. It asked the Secretary-General to make proposals for the investigation of serious violations of international humanitarian law during the conflict. It also asked him to undertake other efforts, including consulting with the Organization of African Unity (OAU), to report on actions that might help restore law and order. The Council reiterated that the Arusha Peace Agreement was the only viable framework for resolving the conflict and called on the parties to renew their commitment to it.

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The Special Committee on Peace-Keeping Operations completed its substantive work for the year on Friday by adopting a 91-paragraph report, which will be presented to the General Assembly at its forthcoming forty-ninth session. The report said Force Commanders or Special Representatives should have an appropriate degree of financial and administrative authority over peace-keeping operations. Force commanders and other key personnel should be associated with operation planning from the outset, and there should be effective coordination between field headquarters and contingent commanders on planning and management.

Stressing the need for a unified and well-defined United Nations command and control structure, the report urged that immediate steps be taken to strengthen arrangements for political direction, military command and control, and consultations. It called for the establishment of basic guidelines and performance standards for training peace-keeping personnel, and encouraged the establishment of training centres on a national or regional basis.

* * *

The International Civilian Mission in Haiti (MICIVIH) has determined that uniformed Haitian military personnel shot dead at least 12 people in the town of Gonaïves late last month. In a statement issued today, the Mission strongly condemned the killings of innocent civilians and demanded that the High Command of the Haitian Armed Forces open an in-depth inquiry in order to establish responsibility for the massacre.

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The Mission said it was impossible for its team of observers to determine the exact number of victims because their corpses had disappeared into the sea or had been hastily buried. It also noted that there had been a massive exodus of people from the area in Gonaives where the killings had taken place.

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The Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) approved 17 full country programmes, six short-term programmes, and many bridging programmes during its second regular session last week. UNICEF Executive Director James P Grant told the Board that the new programmes for Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and the Baltic States would benefit millions of children. They would enable UNICEF to leverage its limited resources in countries in transition while continuing to focus on developing ones, particularly in Africa.

In another action, the Board supported UNICEF participation in the new United Nations joint programme on HIV/AIDS. UNICEF will also closely monitor the rapidly changing opportunities to support Palestinian children and women.

* * *

The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights today began its tenth session in Geneva. Most of the three-week session will be devoted to examining how States parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights live up to their obligations under it.

The Committee examines reports from States parties on measures taken, progress made and difficulties encountered in implementing the Covenant. At the current session it will consider general reports from Belgium, Morocco, Kenya and Uruguay, and reports on specific Articles of the Covenant from Iraq and Romania. The Committee will also review implementation of the Covenant by Gambia, Guinea, Mali and Mauritius, which have not submitted a report since ratifying it.

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The codification, progressive development and implementation of public international law will be the focus of a Congress to be held at Headquarters from 13 to 17 March 1995. The Congress on Public International Law is being convened within the framework of the Decade of International Law (1990-1999) and as part of the observances of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations.

Under the theme: "Towards the twenty-first century: International Law as a Language for International Relations," the Congress will aim to assist the world community, particularly the legal profession, in meeting global challenges. It will discuss topics relevant to the International Law Decade, such as promoting and implementing principles of international law; the peaceful settlement of disputes; and developments in the codification of international law.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1636
3 May 1994

T U E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

- + Secretary-General calls for international military presence to end violence in Rwanda; says United Nations will assist OAU, or ad hoc group of African countries, in establishing peace-keeping mission.
- + UNHCR struggles to aid 250,000 Rwandese refugees in Tanzania; says RPF presence at border crossing has halted unprecedented exodus.
- + Secretary-General invites United States, Russian Federation and European Union to join United Nations in creating working group on proposed international conference on former Yugoslavia.
- + In address to Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, High Commissioner for Human Rights says development is crucial challenge for international community.
- + Secretary-General concludes visit to Norway and departs for Geneva; stresses need for "institutionalization of peace" at ceremony honouring memory of Trygve Lie.
- + In message marking World Press Freedom Day, Secretary-General says press can be both national conscience and means to good government.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today said that an international military presence was needed in Rwanda in order to end the ethnic violence there. He said that the Organization of African Unity (OAU), or an ad hoc group of African countries, could establish such a presence, and that the United Nations could offer them necessary financial and technical assistance.

In a press conference in Oslo today, the Secretary-General noted that the OAU had played an important role in the Arusha peace process, and suggested that it send observers and peace-keepers to Rwanda. Even if a cease-fire were concluded there tomorrow, an international presence would be needed for at least a year in order to defuse the situation and assist the return of refugees and the reconstruction of the country, he said.

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For information media--not an official record

In a related development, the Force Commander of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) has submitted preliminary recommendations regarding the mandate and the number of troops necessary for an enhanced United Nations military presence in the country.

* * *

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) today said it was struggling to provide relief to some 250,000 refugees who fled to Tanzania last week to escape ethnic violence in Rwanda. The refugees are crowded into a makeshift camp set up by the Tanzanian Government, and have been without shelter despite heavy rains in the last few days. Meanwhile, soldiers from the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) have taken up position at the border crossing between the two countries, halting the exodus.

The UNHCR today began distributing urgently needed supplies which had been airlifted into the region, while the World Food Programme (WFP) began distributing food. UNHCR medical officers fear outbreaks of disease in the camp and have begun mass vaccinations against measles. Officials are also concerned that the large lake which supplies water to the camp will dry up, and have feared it will be used to prevent contamination.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has sent letters to the Presidents of the United States, the Russian Federation and the European Union proposing the creation of a working group to prepare for an international conference on the former Yugoslavia. In a press conference in Oslo today, he stressed the need for a comprehensive approach in order to resolve the situation there.

The Secretary-General noted that he would meet tomorrow in Geneva with Thorvald Stoltenberg, Co-Chairman of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia. They regularly discussed what was needed to maintain the momentum in favour of peace in the area and to improve coordination with Member States, he added.

* * *

The High Commissioner for Human Rights, Jose Ayala Lasso, yesterday said that nothing was more important in the context of economic, social and cultural rights than the realization of the right to development. He stressed that development meant alleviating poverty and tackling the disparity between rich and poor nations, and addressing inequality at the national level. He made those comments to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as it began its tenth session in Geneva.

Committee Chairman Philip Alston said he hoped the High Commissioner would use his influence in the international community so that economic, social and cultural rights would receive their full due. Those rights had been the "poor relation" of other rights for too long, he added.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today concluded his official visit to Norway and departed for Geneva. Before leaving Oslo, he had meetings with the acting President of the Norwegian Parliament, Eduard Grimstad, and the Chairman of its Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Haakon Blankenborg. The Secretary-General then addressed members of the Committee and discussed a number of subjects with them, including the United Nations financial crisis, the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda.

Mr. Boutros-Ghali later laid a wreath on the grave of the first Secretary-General of the United Nations, Trygve Lie. While in Grorud Cemetery, he underlined the need for continuity in the life of the Organization, and for the "institutionalization of peace."

Yesterday, the Secretary-General met with Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland, and expressed his gratitude for Norway's outstanding support for the United Nations. He also had a meeting with Foreign Minister Bjorn Tore Godal. In remarks to correspondents afterwards, he noted that 1 per cent of the Norwegian population had taken part in peace-keeping operations. Norway was the eighth largest contributor to the United Nations budget, and was one of the few States which paid its annual assessment in time. The Secretary-General later had an audience with King Harald V and Queen Sonja at the Royal Palace.

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In a message marking World Press Freedom Day, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today said that a free press served both as the conscience of a nation and as a practical means of achieving good government. It could provide people with independent and competing opinions, provide governments with policy recommendations, and expose corruption, he stressed. The General Assembly last year designated 3 May as World Press Freedom Day, and it is today being observed across the globe.

The Secretary-General said World Press Freedom Day was more than an opportunity to celebrate the achievement of a free press. It was a call to convey the benefits of a free press to all societies, and was thus a call for freedom. It was through a free press that the cry of the oppressed can be heard around the globe, he concluded.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1637

4 May 1994

W E D N E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

- + Security Council, in Presidential statement last night, says it will consider whether a situation threatens international peace and security when deciding on creation of peace-keeping operation; will also consider if clear political goal can be reflected in precise mandate.
- + Secretary-General recommends that General Assembly extend mandate of United Nations component of MICIVIH, citing deteriorating human rights situation in Haiti; says Haitian parties must make concessions in order to resolve situation.
- + High Commissioner for Human Rights to visit Rwanda with view to tackling country's "human rights disaster"; United Nations Legal Counsel says ethnic killings there amount to genocide.
- + Secretary-General welcomes signing of agreement by Israel and PLO in Cairo today; says action is major step towards implementing Declaration of Principles and advances cause of peace in Middle East.
- + Saudi Arabia contributes \$20 million to support UNRWA's Peace Implementation Programme in West Bank and Gaza Strip.
- + IAEA circulates draft convention on safety of nuclear power plants for adoption in Vienna next month.

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In deciding on the establishment of a peace-keeping operation, it is necessary to consider whether there is a threat to international peace and security, according to the Security Council. In a statement read out last night by its President, Ibrahim A. Gambari (Nigeria), the Council said it was also important to consider whether there was a clear political goal which could be reflected in a precise mandate. The Council was responding to the Secretary-General's report on "Improving the capacity of the United Nations for peace-keeping."

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The Council said it would also consider whether regional arrangements could help in resolving the situation; the existence of a cease-fire; the parties' commitment to a peace process; and the possibility of ensuring the safety of United Nations personnel. The Council went on to say that it should receive cost projections for the start-up and first six months of an operation, as well as for any increase in total peace-keeping spending, and should be informed of the availability of resources for the operation.

It was important for troop contributors to meet with Council members and for Special Representatives or Force Commanders to provide regular briefings on operations, the Council said. It noted the Secretary-General's intention to devise stand-by arrangements for peace-keeping operations, and encouraged him to continue efforts to include civilian personnel in those arrangements. The Council stressed that peace-keeping operations should be under the operational control of the United Nations, and welcomed the General Assembly's call for urgent action on the question of command and control.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has recommended that the General Assembly extend the mandate and financing of the United Nations component of the International Civilian Mission in Haiti (MICIVIH) for one year. In a report to the Assembly dated 29 April, he said that although the Mission had been unable to resolve the situation in Haiti, it had shed light on certain events there and denounced human rights abuses that would not otherwise have been disclosed.

The Secretary-General went on to say that President Jean-Bertrand Aristide could only be returned to power, and democracy restored to Haiti, if the parties there made constructive concessions. He noted that current negotiations had yielded no significant progress. A recent initiative by a group of Haitian Parliamentarians -- which had been supported by the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS) -- had not been endorsed by President Aristide. Meanwhile, unity among the Friends of the Secretary-General on Haiti had waned and Security Council sanctions had proved ineffective.

The Secretary-General said the international community's role had changed from that of mediator between the parties to that of sole agent responsible for resolving the situation in Haiti. There was a danger that the international community would have too extensive a mission, allowing the parties to shirk their own responsibilities. He stressed the need for "a more specifically Haitian solution," and said the other countries directly concerned should restore a unified approach in the current negotiations. Without positive change by both the Haitian side and the international community, it was difficult for the United Nations to determine what additional efforts were needed. However, the Organization must maintain its presence in Haiti given the deteriorating human rights situation there, he concluded.

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4 May 1994

The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Jose Ayala Lasso, has announced that he will visit Rwanda in the next few days to find ways to end the "human rights disaster" there. He will also visit Burundi to offer continued United Nations support to that country. He said that he would ask members of the Commission for Human Rights to convene an emergency session to deal with the situation in Rwanda, and that he was considering sending human rights monitors there. Mr. Lasso met today in Geneva with Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali to discuss his forthcoming mission.

Meanwhile, the United Nations Legal Counsel, Ralph Zacklin, has said that the killings in Rwanda amount to genocide. In remarks to correspondents at Headquarters today, he noted that the Convention on Genocide defined the crime as killing with the intention to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group. He also noted that the Security Council's recent Presidential statement on Rwanda contained a definition of genocide, even though the word itself had not been used.

Mr. Zacklin said persons could be tried for genocide in the national courts of States parties to the Genocide Convention. However, there was no permanent international criminal tribunal which could claim jurisdiction over what was happening in Rwanda. Nevertheless, genocide was recognized as a crime under customary international law and Member States could ask the United Nations to establish a special tribunal in response to the killings there.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has welcomed the agreement signed today in Cairo by Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). He congratulated them for taking the first major step in implementing the Declaration of Principles and urged them to continue their negotiations. The Secretary-General, who was continuing his visit to Geneva, said the agreement brought the two parties closer to the goal of peace in the Middle East.

The Secretary-General paid tribute to the United States and the Russian Federation as co-sponsors of the Gaza-Jericho accord, as well as to Egypt and Norway. He also appealed to the international community to fulfill its commitments in support of the Declaration of Principles, particularly by providing necessary financial assistance.

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Saudi Arabia yesterday contributed \$20 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to support projects in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The projects are part of UNRWA's Peace Implementation Programme, which was launched after the signing of the Declaration of Principles between the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel last September.

Saudi Arabia's contribution will support the construction of schools and health facilities, the provision of equipment for Shifa hospital, and the rehabilitation of shelters in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The country is a

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major donor to UNRWA and contributes \$1.2 million to its regular programmes each year.

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A draft nuclear safety convention has been circulated to all States by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for adoption at a Diplomatic Conference to be held at IAEA Headquarters in Vienna from 14 to 17 June. The draft, which has been drawn up in a series of meetings since 1991, covers land-based civil nuclear power plants.

Adoption of the draft convention will help maximize safety at the world's 420 nuclear power plants, according to the IAEA. The obligations contained in it are based on fundamental safety principles reflecting a consensus on the regulation and operation of nuclear installations. Contracting parties will also be obliged to submit reports on implementation for "peer review" at regular meetings.

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South Africa has recovered all the rights and privileges of full membership of the World Health Organization (WHO) as a result of a resolution adopted by the World Health Assembly in Geneva yesterday. That resolution noted the recent democratic elections in South Africa and the coming into force of the country's new Constitution.

South Africa lost its voting privileges as a result of a World Health Assembly resolution adopted in 1964. That resolution said the country's system of apartheid represented a failure to adhere to the WHO's humanitarian principles.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1638
5 May 1994

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + Security Council, in resolution adopted last night, authorizes 40-day deployment of United Nations Aouzou Strip Observer Group to monitor Libyan withdrawal from area.
- + Security Council, in Presidential statement, warns Bosnian parties of serious consequences of any military offensive in Posavina corridor; calls for immediate resumption of negotiations without preconditions.
- + UNHCR says it urgently needs \$38.5 million to provide humanitarian aid to 250,000 Rwandan refugees in Tanzania; Secretary-General endorses appeal by former Tanzanian President for international action in Rwanda.
- + Secretary-General, in report to Security Council, says conditions are not right for deployment of United Nations peace-keeping force in Abkhazia, Georgia; cites failure of parties to accept mandate proposals.
- + Secretary-General to convene meeting on former Yugoslavia in Paris on 12 May; reiterates his full support for Special Representative Akashi.
- + Fiftieth Anniversary of United Nations should be marked by programmes of education and communication, Secretary-General says; sees opportunity for Organization to build constituency in world opinion.
- + Special Mission to Afghanistan travels to Geneva after five days of talks in Iran and Saudi Arabia; to visit Moscow for consultations with Russian Government.

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The Security Council last night authorized the deployment of the United Nations Aouzou Strip Observer Group (UNASOG) to monitor Libya's withdrawal from the area on its border with Chad. The Strip had been disputed by the two countries since 1973, but the International Court of Justice ruled in February that Libya should withdraw its administration and forces. Last month, Libya and Chad signed an agreement on modalities for implementation of the Court's Judgement.

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In unanimously adopting resolution 915 (1994), the Council said UNASOG's nine observers and six support staff would be deployed for 40 days. It also exempted UNASOG flights from the aerial sanctions imposed on Libya in relation to the bombings of Pan Am flight 103 and UTA flight 772. The Council called on the parties to cooperate with UNASOG and with the Secretary-General in verifying compliance with their obligations.

* * *

In another meeting last night, the Security Council warned the parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina of the serious consequences of any offensive military action in or around the Posavina "corridor". In a statement read out by its President, Ibrahim A. Gambari (Nigeria), the Council called on the parties to agree to a complete cessation of hostilities and to immediately resume peace negotiations without preconditions.

The Council welcomed arrangements for a United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) presence in the Posavina region, and encouraged the Secretary-General's Special Representative to seek enhanced aerial surveillance of that and other areas of tension. The Council called on the Bosnian parties to cooperate with the Special Representative on the planned UNPROFOR deployment.

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The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) today said it urgently needed \$38.5 million to provide humanitarian aid for 250,000 Rwandan refugees in Tanzania over the next three months. Aid workers have been battling torrential rains and sanitation problems to ease the plight of the refugees, who are crowded into a makeshift camp near the border town of Ngara. The UNHCR said the refugees had arrived from Rwanda in good health, but were now threatened with outbreaks of typhoid and cholera.

Meanwhile, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has endorsed an appeal by former Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere for urgent action by the international community to resolve the situation in Rwanda. Mr. Nyerere today called on African Heads of State and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to act individually and collectively to end the carnage in Rwanda.

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Conditions are not right for the deployment of a United Nations peace-keeping force in Abkhazia, Georgia, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has said. In a report to the Security Council dated 3 May, he cited the failure of the two sides to accept proposals for the mandate of such a force. He also doubted whether the Council would risk another peace-keeping operation which might not be able to carry out its mandate because of non-cooperation by parties on the ground.

The Secretary-General outlined three options for the Council's consideration. It could establish, but not deploy, a force, in the hope that

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such action would convince the parties to accept conditions for eventual deployment. By the second option, the Council could authorize the Russian Federation and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) to establish an operation, with the option of including it in a United Nations operation at a later date. As a third option, the Secretary-General said the Council could postpone any decision until the parties agreed on the mandate and deployment of a United Nations force.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has announced that he will convene a meeting to discuss the situation in the former Yugoslavia in Paris on 12 May. The meeting will be attended by Thorvald Stoltenberg and Lord Owen, Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia; Special Representative Yasushi Akashi; Marrack Goulding, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs; and General Bertrand de Lapresle, Commander of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). The discussion will not be limited to Bosnia or to any part of the former Yugoslavia, but will cover all aspects of the situation there.

In remarks to correspondents in Geneva today, the Secretary-General reiterated that he had full confidence in Special Representative Akashi, who was in charge of all United Nations operations in the former Yugoslavia and who was effectively supported by UNPROFOR. The Secretary-General stressed that he would not "micro-manage" those operations, wherever he might be.

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The Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations will be a major milestone to be marked not only by celebration, but by programmes of reflection, education and communication, according to Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali. He made that comment in Geneva yesterday while chairing a meeting of eminent persons on the Anniversary. The group is the Secretary-General's "think tank" on issues and challenges surrounding the event.

The Secretary-General said the United Nations should reach beyond informed or elite public opinion to a global audience. Young people should be a major target of programmes for the Anniversary. "We can raise public awareness of the Organization, and build a constituency for the United Nations in world public opinion," he stressed. The international community should celebrate what had been achieved, and safeguard it for the future. He observed that some 39 Fiftieth Anniversary national committees had already been established and that more were being formed every day.

* * *

The Secretary-General's Special Mission to Afghanistan today left Tehran for Geneva after five days of high-level talks in Iran and Saudi Arabia and a month of consultations around Afghanistan and in Pakistan. The head of the

(more)

5 May 1994

Mission, Mahmoud Mestiri, described the latest talks as positive, and noted that the Governments of Iran and Saudi Arabia supported the United Nations initiative to explore ways of bringing reconstruction to Afghanistan.

The Mission will continue its work over the coming weeks, with talks in Geneva and a visit to Moscow to consult with the Russian Government, before reporting to the Secretary-General.

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Correction

In the Daily Highlights of Wednesday, 4 May, the first sentence in the second paragraph on page 3 should have read: "Meanwhile, the Director of the Office of the United Nations Legal Counsel, Ralph Zacklin, has said that the killings in Rwanda amount to genocide."

United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1639
6 May 1994

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + Security Council expands sanctions regime against Haiti, effective 21 May, to bring about compliance by military authorities with Governors Island Agreement; States to deny entry to Haitian officers and their families; sanctions to remain in force until President Aristide returns.
- + Security Council, in resolution adopted last night, renews ONUMOZ mandate for final period until 15 November; expresses concern at delays in implementation of General Peace Agreement.
- + Secretary-General welcomes IEC declaration that recent South African elections were free and fair; leaves Geneva for South Africa to attend inauguration of new President.
- + Secretary-General meets with Foreign Ministers of Indonesia and Portugal to discuss question of East Timor
- + UNPROFOR to deploy 16 more military observers in Bosnian town of Brcko this weekend to defuse tension in area.
- + Secretary-General appeals for end to fighting in Yemen, citing threat to country's unity and democracy.

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The Security Council today imposed a comprehensive commercial embargo against Haiti, effective 21 May, aimed at bringing about compliance by the country's military authorities with the Governors Island Agreement. The Council also required all States to deny entry to officers of the Haitian military and police, as well as their families, and urged States to freeze the financial resources of those persons. It took that action, under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, by unanimously adopting resolution 917 (1994).

The sanctions will remain in force until the Commander-in-Chief of the Haitian Armed Forces retires, the Chief of Police of Port-au-Prince and Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces resigns, and President Jean-Bertrand Aristide returns to Haiti. Other conditions include the creation of a proper

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environment for free and fair legislative elections and for the deployment of the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH).

The Council called on States not to allow aircraft to take off from or land in their territory if bound for or coming from Haiti, apart from regular commercial passenger flights. It also called on States to prevent the import and export of Haitian commodities or products, and to prevent the sale or supply of goods to Haiti, with the exception of medical supplies, foodstuffs, essential humanitarian products, and petroleum products authorized by resolution 841 (1993). The Council called on States cooperating with the legitimate Haitian Government, acting nationally or via regional arrangements, to use necessary measures to ensure strict implementation of its decisions, in particular to inspect and verify the cargoes and destinations of shipping.

The Council asked the Secretary-General to report by 19 May on steps taken by the Haitian military to comply with the Governors Island Agreement, and to report by 30 June on the situation in Haiti, including preparations for legislative elections and the humanitarian situation.

* * *

The Security Council has renewed the mandate of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ) at a reduced strength for a final period until 15 November, subject to reviews by 5 July and 5 September. In unanimously adopting resolution 916 (1994), the Council reiterated the importance of the elections to be held in Mozambique on 27 and 28 October. It called on the country's Government and the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO) to support the electoral process, including the work of the recently inaugurated National Elections Commission.

Expressing concern at continuing delays, the Council called on the parties to comply fully with the General Peace Agreement, particularly regarding the demobilization of troops and the formation of the new Mozambican Defence Force. It asked the Secretary-General to report regularly on implementation of the Agreement. The Council commended the agreement signed by the parties on 8 April, which expedited the Government's assembly of troops and accelerated RENAMO's demobilization, and urged the parties to meet the 1 June and 15 July deadlines.

The Council called on the Mozambican Government to provide logistical and technical support for the formation of the new Defence Force, including regular pay for troops. It also called for as many troops as possible to be trained before the October elections. The Council urged the parties to allow ONUMOZ, humanitarian agencies and all political forces unimpeded access in Mozambique, and to cooperate with police observers in particular. It also thanked several countries for offering to assist the new Defence Force and for helping with the important work of mine clearance.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has welcomed the declaration by the Chairman of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), Judge Johann Kriegler, that the recent South African elections were substantially free and fair. He praised the IEC's dedication and courage, saying it had enabled all South Africans to express peacefully their hopes for equality and freedom. He also noted that the United Nations had spearheaded the international campaign against apartheid. The Secretary-General today left Geneva for South Africa to attend the inauguration of the country's new President on 10 May.

In a related development, the United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa (UNOMSA) and other international observer missions said that despite some irregularities, the elections reflected the will of the South African people. In a joint statement, the missions said the great strength of the vote counting process had been its transparency. They urged the IEC to deal quickly with outstanding disputes and to pursue any criminal investigations.

The international missions said the dramatic drop in political violence and the commitment of political leaders to reconciliation augured well for the new South Africa. While the international community had supported the struggle for democracy, South Africans themselves had managed the entire transitional process.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali met today in Geneva with the Foreign Ministers of Indonesia and Portugal, Ali Alatas and Durao Barroso, as part of his ongoing effort to resolve the question of East Timor. He welcomed the restraint displayed by both sides at international fora, which had made it possible for the Commission on Human Rights to adopt by consensus a Chairman's statement on the situation in East Timor. He called on the two sides to build on that consensus by implementing the recommendations in the statement. It was noted that the Indonesian Government intended to continue its investigation into the violent incident in Dili in 1991.

The Secretary-General said he was encouraged by the increased access to East Timor for the United Nations, human rights organizations and journalists. He said he would seek to promote "an all-inclusive intra-Timorese dialogue," while the Foreign Ministers said they were ready to meet with leading East Timorese supporters and opponents of integration. The Ministers asked the Secretary-General to identify issues for consideration before their next meeting, which will take place in Geneva in January. Prior to that meeting, representatives of the two Governments will hold talks at United Nations Headquarters.

* * *

The United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) will deploy sixteen more military observers in the Bosnian town of Brcko beginning tomorrow. According to a United Nations spokesman, the additional observers are part of an effort to defuse tension in the area. The agreement to deploy the observers followed discussions in Pale between Special Representative Yasushi Akashi and Bosnian

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Serb leader Radovan Karadzic. There are already fourteen military observers in the vicinity of Brcko -- six in Croatian-controlled areas in Orasje and eight in Muslim-controlled Maoca.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has appealed to the parties in Yemen to end the conflict there peacefully and in accordance with the United Nations Charter. In a statement issued yesterday, the Secretary-General urged Yemen's leaders to exercise maximum restraint lest intensification of the fighting threaten the country's unity and democracy.

The Secretary-General welcomed the mediation efforts of a number of Governments and organizations in the region and urged all concerned to deepen their resolve to end the conflict.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1640
9 May 1994

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + Security Council asks Secretary-General to make indicative contingency plans for supplying humanitarian relief to Rwanda; says urgent and effective means of action must be considered.
- + Secretary-General, in South Africa, meets with outgoing President de Klerk; also meets with Presidents of Israel and Zimbabwe, and Prime Minister of Denmark.
- + Member States owe United Nations \$3.02 billion as of 30 April; \$1.01 billion owed to regular budget and \$2.01 billion to peace-keeping.
- + Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information says United Nations must speak with one voice; DPI must ensure coordinated approach to many issues before Organization.
- + United Nations to convene meeting of major donors in The Hague tomorrow to discuss emergency needs in sub-Saharan Africa.
- + UNHCR expresses concern for safety of 13,000 Somali refugees in conflict-torn areas in southern Yemen.
- + International Law Commission considers establishment of international court dealing with crimes against peace and security at current session in Geneva.
- + UNICEF Executive Board, concluding annual session, adopts decision on empowerment of women and girls and reaffirms commitment to Africa.

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The Security Council has asked Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali to undertake "indicative contingency planning" for the delivery of humanitarian aid to displaced persons in Rwanda. In a letter to the Secretary-General dated 6 May, Council President Ibrahim Gambari (Nigeria) said urgent and effective means of action must be considered in view of the unabated violence there. The Council might, at a later date, ask for indications of the

(more)

Press Release DH/1640
9 May 1994

financial and logistical implications of an expanded United Nations or international presence in the area. Such a presence would assist the parties in Rwanda, monitor a cease-fire and help the resumption of the Arusha peace process.

The President stressed that the Council did not expect the Secretary-General to make definitive recommendations as consultations on future United Nations action were ongoing. He commended the Secretary-General, his Special Representative and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) for their exemplary work in very difficult circumstances.

Meanwhile, according to a United Nations spokesman, a Canadian plane carrying relief supplies from Nairobi was forced to turn back from Kigali this morning as shelling around the city's airport intensified. Both the Government and the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) denied deliberately targeting the airport, where 150 UNAMIR troops are stationed.

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Continuing his visit to South Africa, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today had meetings in Johannesburg with President Ezer Weisman of Israel, President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe, and Prime Minister Poul Nyrup Rasmussen of Denmark. The Secretary-General then travelled to Pretoria, where he met with outgoing South African President F.W. de Klerk. He was later scheduled to attend a dinner at the British Embassy in honour of Prince Philip and Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd.

Yesterday, Mr. Boutros-Ghali met with Chief Emeka Anyoku, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, and discussed cooperation between that organization and the United Nations. He then had meetings with his Special Representatives for Mozambique and Angola, Aldo Ajello and Alioune Blondin Beye. He also met with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Salim Salim, and discussed the situation in Rwanda. They dealt with efforts to promote a cease-fire and to provide humanitarian aid there. On Saturday, the Secretary-General met with Nelson Mandela, the President-elect of South Africa.

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As of 30 April, Member States owed the United Nations a total of \$3.02 billion, according to the latest update on the Organization's financial situation. Of that amount, \$1.01 billion was for assessments for the regular budget and \$2.01 billion was for peace-keeping operations.

The United States -- the largest debtor -- owed almost \$300 million to the regular budget, and nearly \$550 million to the peace-keeping budget, for the current year; it owed more than \$230 million and \$100 million respectively for prior years. Japan and the Russian Federation had regular budget

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contributions outstanding for the current year, but not for previous years. However, the Russian Federation owed more than \$570 million in total peace-keeping contributions.

* * *

The United Nations must speak with one voice, Samir Sanbar, Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information, told the Committee on Information today as it began its sixteenth session. As the centre of information activities, the Department of Public Information (DPI) must ensure a coordinated approach to the multiple issues before the United Nations. It must also focus more sharply on the priority issues set by the membership and directed by the Secretary-General, he stressed.

Mr. Sanbar, who had just returned from Zagreb, said all peace-keeping information components should form an integral part of a well-defined United Nations information strategy. It was essential that the DPI participate in the earliest stages of a mission, and that an information strategy be viewed as a critical element in ensuring an active operation. While the Organization's success stories would not often make headlines, the DPI could work in partnership with other United Nations departments to improve the news, he concluded.

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The United Nations, with the support of the Dutch Government, will convene a meeting of major donors in The Hague tomorrow to discuss the emergency needs of sub-Saharan Africa. The Organization is extremely concerned over the fate of more than 21 million victims of natural and man-made disasters in the region. Under-Secretary-General Peter Hansen of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs will urge donors to take a broad look at the situation, especially considering the plight of people in the Horn of Africa, Rwanda and Liberia.

United Nations agencies estimate that they will need \$990 million for emergency relief programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa for the rest of the year -- \$325 million for food aid, and \$665 million for programmes and materials to assist people affected by drought and war.

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The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has expressed deep concern for the safety of 13,000 Somali refugees in conflict-torn areas in southern Yemen. Some 6,000 refugees in a camp near Aden have been caught in crossfire between opposing northern and southern Yemeni forces, and there have been reports of a major battle in the area. According to the UNHCR, the camp is particularly vulnerable because it is located near a regiment of northern Yemeni soldiers who are opposed to the Aden Government.

The UNHCR said it was worried that the camp's water supply, which must be pumped across the desert, could be jeopardized by the fighting. Officials

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were also concerned for the safety of some 1,300 Somali refugees of Yemani origin in two other camps in the coastal town of Al Mukallah.

* * *

The establishment of an international criminal court, or another international trial mechanism, dealing with crimes against the peace and security of mankind is being considered by the International Law Commission at its forty-sixth session in Geneva. The programme of work for the Commission, which is meeting until 22 July, also covers State responsibility, the non-navigational uses of international water courses, and liability for the results of acts not prohibited by international law.

Last year, a Commission Working Group produced a draft statute for an international court, focusing on such issues as jurisdiction, applicable law, investigation and prosecution. The court will deal with crimes covered by international treaties, such as genocide or the treatment of prisoners of war, as well as those recognized as crimes under international or national law, such as drug-trafficking. The General Assembly has asked the Commission to give the draft statute priority consideration, with a view to completing its work, if possible, at the current session.

* * *

Concluding its annual session on Friday, the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) adopted a decision on the empowerment of women and girls, aiming to integrate gender concerns in its country programmes. In another action, the Board reaffirmed its commitment to Africa as the region of greatest need and highest priority. It committed UNICEF to assisting African countries to fulfil the human development goals for the 1990s, as expressed at the 1990 Summit for Children.

The Board also called for UNICEF Executive Director James Grant to work with the international community to address the immediate and long-term needs of children affected by ethnic violence in Rwanda.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1641
10 May 1994

T U E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

- + Secretary-General attends inauguration of new South African President; hails Nelson Mandela's achievements and appeals for international support for new democracy; to convene high-level meeting on former Yugoslavia in Paris.
- + UNHCR issues urgent appeal for \$57 million to aid 860,000 refugees who have fled ethnic violence in Rwanda and Burundi.
- + Global Conference on Small Island Developing States concludes by adopting Programme of Action for sustainable development and Barbados Declaration.
- + Disarmament Commission concludes session and adopts final report; fails to achieve consensus on role of science and technology in international security, and on nuclear disarmament.
- + Commission on Crime Prevention, meeting in Vienna, calls for measures to prevent and punish acts of violence against women and children.
- + Iraq calls on Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to recommend lifting of Security Council sanctions against it; Committee members voice concern about country's treatment of minority groups.
- + International Day of Families to be observed worldwide on 15 May.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today attended the inauguration in Pretoria of the new South African President, Nelson Mandela. Later, at a luncheon in Mr. Mandela's honour, the Secretary-General said that South Africa had regained its rightful place in the international community. He appealed to all countries to support the new democracy, and to all South Africans to uphold the principles of tolerance and reconciliation. He pledged that the United Nations would continue to work for social progress in South Africa.

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The Secretary-General praised Mr. Mandela's tireless pursuit of peace and understanding. The new President had worked long and suffered greatly to build a new non-racial society. He also praised the vision and courage of the new Deputy President, F. W. de Klerk, who had won the lasting respect of everyone who yearned for justice.

The Secretary-General later left for Paris, where he will hold talks with French officials, including President Mitterand and Prime Minister Balladur. On Thursday, he will convene a high-level meeting on the former Yugoslavia. It will be attended by Thorvald Stoltenberg and Lord Owen, Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia; Special Representative Yasushi Akashi; Marrack Goulding, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs; and General Bertrand de Lapresle, Commander of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR).

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The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) today issued an urgent appeal for almost \$57 million to provide aid for three months to some 860,000 refugees who have fled ethnic violence in Rwanda and Burundi. The appeal focuses on refugees in Tanzania, where 250,000 Rwandese recently converged in one 24-hour period, in the largest and fastest exodus the UNHCR had ever seen. Between 400 and 1,500 refugees continue to arrive in Tanzania daily.

Relief workers have warned of a catastrophe unless food, water, shelter and sanitation services are provided to refugees in the Benaco camp in Tanzania. Children comprise half the population there, and are most vulnerable to outbreaks of dysentery, measles and cholera. There are more Rwandese refugees in Burundi, Zaire and Uganda. The UNHCR is also assisting 285,000 Burundese refugees who have returned home since the ethnic violence began in Rwanda early last month.

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The first Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States adopted a Programme of Action by consensus at its final meeting in Barbados on Friday. The Programme aims to promote development in such States, while preserving their unique cultural and environmental diversity. It presents a basis for action in such key areas as climate change and rising sea levels, marine, land and energy resources, tourism and science and technology.

Conference participants also adopted the "Barbados Declaration", a consensus political text which expresses their commitment to fostering sustainable development in small island States. The Declaration also reaffirms the international community's responsibility to build equitable partnerships to help those states minimize the stress on their fragile ecosystems.

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Representatives from 111 States, including 14 Heads of State or Government, took part in the Global Conference. It was convened on the recommendation of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

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The Disarmament Commission yesterday concluded its current session and adopted its final report, having reached an initial consensus on preliminary elements of guidelines for international arms transfers. However, the Commission failed for the fourth year in a row to achieve a consensus on the role of science and technology in the context of international security, and concluded consideration of that issue. It also failed to reach a consensus on nuclear disarmament and agreed to include that item in its 1995 agenda. The General Assembly had mandated the conclusion of both agenda items in the 1994 session.

Representatives expressed disappointment over the lack of consensus on disarmament and science and technology. Some said that an over-emphasis on and defence of detailed national positions had overshadowed the international community's common disarmament goals.

* * *

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice has called for measures to prevent and punish acts of violence against women and children, stressing the need to counter stereotypes conducive to such violence. In a draft resolution approved in Vienna on Friday, it asked Governments to cooperate with investigations by the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, as well as with the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. The Commission also approved draft resolutions on organized transnational crime and money laundering.

On Thursday, the Commission decided that the issue of international traffic of minors would be discussed at the next United Nations Crime Congress. In a draft resolution on the issue, the Commission said it was aware that such trafficking was carried out by criminal organizations with transnational connections, principally in developing countries, and that newborn babies were most vulnerable. The Commission called for the preparation of a report on the sale of children, to be submitted at the next session.

The Commission approved four other drafts on: the role of criminal law in environmental protection; information management in the United Nations crime prevention programme; the development of minimum rules for the administration of criminal justice, and the succession of States to international crime control treaties.

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Press Release DH/1641
10 May 1994

Iraq yesterday called on the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to recommend that Security Council sanctions against it be lifted, saying that action would be in line with the Committee's basic humanitarian objectives. The Committee, which was meeting in Geneva, was considering Iraq's report on its implementation of certain provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Iraqi delegate Khalil Hamash said it was difficult to discuss economic, social and cultural rights in his country without considering the impact of the sanctions perpetuated by certain Council members since the Gulf crisis. The sanctions were an obstacle to the enjoyment of human rights, and had no legal or moral basis because Iraq had met the requirements of relevant Council resolutions.

Some Committee members expressed concern about the displacement of minority groups in Iraq, notably the Kurds and Shi'ites, and asked questions about the welfare of the country's Jews and Marsh Arabs. One member said Iraq was "a country with an internal atmosphere of fear and intimidation."

* * *

A wide range of cultural and informational activities are planned for the first observance of the International Day of Families on Sunday. The Day was designated by the General Assembly last September in a resolution launching the 1994 International Year of the Family. The Day will focus international attention on the situation of families throughout the world. National and local activities will concentrate on the major theme for the Year -- "Family: Resources and Responsibilities in a Changing World."

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1642

11 May 1994

W E D N E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

- + Secretary-General, in Paris, has meetings with French President and Prime Minister; says it is not too late for international humanitarian and political action to end killings in Rwanda.
- + United Nations launches inter-agency appeal for \$532 million to provide humanitarian aid to 4 million people in former Yugoslavia for six months.
- + International Narcotics Control Board meets in Vienna to review implementation by States of international drug control treaties.
- + IAEA reiterates that its inspectors must be allowed to measure fuel rod samples at certain nuclear-power plants in Democratic People's Republic of Korea; invites country to discuss inspection programme in Vienna.
- + IAEA says 485 nuclear-power plants were operating or being built worldwide last year.

* * *

On the first day of his visit to France, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today met in Paris with President François Mitterand. They discussed the meeting on the former Yugoslavia to be convened tomorrow by Mr. Boutros-Ghali, and the situations in Rwanda and Haiti. President Mitterand expressed his full support for the efforts of the Secretary-General, the Organization of African Unity (OAU), and African leaders to resolve the situation in Rwanda. Earlier in the day, the Secretary-General had said that it was not too late to take international action at the humanitarian and political levels to try to end the violence there.

The Secretary-General also met today with French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur. Among the issues they discussed were the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, especially the reconstruction of Sarajevo, and French participation in the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). The Prime Minister raised the question of the 11 French hostages being held by the

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Bosnian Serbs, and the Secretary-General said he would discuss it during tomorrow's meeting on the former Yugoslavia.

Before concluding his trip to South Africa yesterday, the Secretary-General took part in a working meeting with United States Vice-President Al Gore, President Al Hassan Mwinyi of Tanzania, and the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Salim Salim. That meeting focused on the situation in Rwanda, and on what actions might be taken there by the international community.

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The United Nations today launched a consolidated inter-agency appeal for \$532 million to provide humanitarian assistance for the former Yugoslavia for six months. The appeal, which will begin in July, was launched simultaneously in New York and Geneva by Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Peter Hansen and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Sadako Ogata.

The aid programme will help more than 4 million people caught up in the humanitarian crisis in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in other parts of the former Yugoslavia. It will provide basic food, shelter and health services for the displaced and the destitute. Special emphasis is being given to urban populations, including the institutionalized, the homeless and low-income pensioners.

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The International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) is currently meeting in Vienna to review action taken by States to implement international drug control treaties. During its two-week session, the Board will seek to identify loopholes in the drug control system and to develop more efficient control policies. Drug abuse and trafficking are considered to be serious threats to socio-economic development and, in many cases, political stability.

The Board is an independent body, and consists of 13 members who are elected by the Economic and Social Council. It will focus on the supervision of the legal drug business and on the monitoring of chemicals used to manufacture illegal drugs. Using information from various sources, it will assess States' compliance with treaty obligations and work to prevent the diversion of controlled substances into illegal channels. Because of the special character of its deliberations, the Board's proceedings are confidential.

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The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has reiterated that its inspectors must be permitted to measure a representative sample of fuel rods during any core discharge at certain nuclear-power plants in the Democratic

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People's Republic of Korea. IAEA Director-General Hans Blix yesterday invited the People's Republic to send a team of experts to Vienna to discuss the inspection programme and the schedule for it.

Mr. Blix proposed sending an inspection team to the People's Republic in the next few days, on the assumption that the core discharge would be deferred. The team would perform activities which the IAEA had not been allowed to carry out during an inspection of a reprocessing plant last March. It would also undertake such activities as the servicing of cameras and checking of seals.

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A total of 485 nuclear-power plants were operating or being built around the world in 1993, according to a report by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Last year, nine nuclear-power plants were connected to electricity grids in Canada, China, France, Japan, Russia and the United States. Those figures were compiled by the IAEA's Power Reactor Information System.

Nuclear power accounted for more than half of electricity production in Lithuania, France, Belgium and the Slovak Republic. A total of 17 countries (including Taiwan, China) relied on nuclear plants for at least a quarter of their electricity needs.

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